

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action of January 11, 2005. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The Office Action

Claims 10-13 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Frye (US Patent No. 4,410,315).

The Claims of the Present Application Distinguish Over the Cited References

Claim 10 recites a nozzle adapted to direct a stream of fluid in a direction generally opposite to a direction of travel of a strip.

Frye merely discloses a nozzle **33** that drives air in a generally downwardly and rearwardly oblique direction toward a strip **T**. Although the nozzle of Frye drives air generally downwardly and rearwardly, the reference fails to disclose directing fluid in a direction that is generally opposite to the direction of travel of the strip, as recited in **claim 10**. Therefore, **claim 10**, along with **claims 11-13, 19, and 20** which depend therefrom, are patentable over Frye.

Claim 21 recites a nozzle that produces a fluid stream in a direction generally opposite to the direction of movement of the unadhered trim strip. Although the nozzle of Frye drives air generally downwardly and rearwardly, the reference fails to disclose directing fluid in a direction that is generally opposite to the direction of movement of unadhered trim strip, as recited in **claim 21**. Therefore, **claim 21** is patentable over Frye.

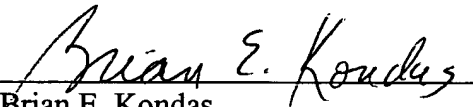
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Early notice thereof is respectfully requested.

It is believed that there is no fee associated with the filing and consideration of this amendment. Should the Commissioner decide that any fee or fee deficiency is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any and all such other fees incurred as a result of entering this amendment and response to deposit account number 03-0172.

Respectfully submitted,

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